



# TRINITY TIMES

Trinity United Church of Christ  
[www.trinityucchanover.org](http://www.trinityucchanover.org)

MARCH, 2024

## General Information:

### Worship Schedule:

Sunday Service

9:00am

Fellowship Time

10:00am

Sunday School

10:30am

### Office Hours:

Mon—Fri 9am—1pm

### Telephone:

717 637-2233

### Church e-mail

[info@trinityucchanover.org](mailto:info@trinityucchanover.org)



## Our feeble prayers, our Father's response

In *He Still Moves Stones*, Max Lucado recalls the story of Derek Redmond, a 1992 Olympic competitor in the 400-meter race. Halfway through Redmond's semifinal run, a torn hamstring sent him tumbling to the ground. His dad, Jim, immediately ran onto the track. He met up with Derek, who, though crying, had managed to stand and was hopping forward.

"You don't have to do this," Jim said. But Derek insisted. "Well, then, we're going to finish this together," said Jim, who supported his son as he hobbled to the finish line. The crowd cheered and wept as Derek, with Dad's assistance, finished the race.

Lucado writes: "What made the father do it? ... Was it the strength of his child? No, it was the pain of his child. ... God does the same. Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference."

## Transformed

Before becoming a Christian late in life, British journalist Malcolm Muggeridge denied that Jesus was God's Son and had risen from the dead. If Jesus' body was missing, he said, someone probably snatched it and abandoned it to the vultures, leaving the bones to whiten in the sun.

For Muggeridge, the turning point was encountering a living Lord. "If you should ask me by what authority I talk about the power of Christ to change human nature, I should reply to you simply ... because he has changed me," Muggeridge said after discarding agnosticism. "I can look anybody in the face today — my friends, my colleagues and what, perhaps, is most difficult of all, the members of my family — and be sure that they know, as I know, that I am really and literally a new creature in Christ Jesus since the day when he came into my life."

## Special dates

- World Day of Prayer, *March 1, 2024*
- Daylight saving time begins, *March 10, 2024*
- First day of spring, *March 19, 2024*
- Holy Week, *March 24-31, 2024*
- Palm/Passion Sunday, *March 24, 2024*
- Maundy Thursday, *March 28, 2024*
- Good Friday, *March 29, 2024*
- Easter Sunday, *March 31, 2024*



**MARCH 10**

## *Getting to Know Your Pastor and Family*

It is wonderful to be here as pastor of Trinity UCC! I know that your search for a settled pastor was a long journey. As we are getting to know each other, I thought it would be good to share with you some background about myself and my family.

I grew up in New Orleans, Louisiana and attended Lancaster Theological Seminary after feeling the call to ministry. During seminary I served as a chaplain for Luthercare in Lititz, Pennsylvania. My first call to parish ministry was Grace UCC in Taneytown, Maryland where I served nearly 20 years as their pastor. Before ministry I worked in retail, food production, carpentry, healthcare administration, and medical equipment sales.

Tricia (“Trish”) and I married in August 2017 becoming a blended family of six. Trish brought her two boys, William and Matthew, to our new marriage after being widowed. I brought my children Addison and Luke after my first marriage ended due to a situation beyond my control.

Trish came from Waynesboro, PA and her late husband’s family there remain very involved in the lives of her boys. Some of you met Pat (“Granny”) and Amy (“Aunt”) after our February 4<sup>th</sup> service. They, in addition to the boys’ Great Aunt Barbara, are our only family in the area. We visit my parents, siblings, and extended family in New Orleans a few times a year. Trish’s sister and brother-in-law live in England.

Trish became a registered nurse in the spring of 2023 and earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree in December. She started a new job in January at Carroll Hospital in Westminster. She works both weekdays and some weekends on a medical surgical unit.

Addison (“Addie”) and Luke are both in college. Addie is a sophomore at St. Mary’s College of Maryland in St. Mary’s City pursuing a degree in Art and Art Education. Luke is a first-year student at the University of Maryland at College Park where he is pursuing a degree in Bioengineering. We look forward to their visits home on big holidays and college breaks. William (“Will”) is a sophomore in high school and Matthew is a 4<sup>th</sup> grader.

In our free time, Tricia and I love to cook, watch movies, and explore new areas. We are excited to be new additions to the Trinity UCC family! My family and I look forward to getting to know you and your families.

*Pastor Steve*



*Dear Trinity Friends,*

*I was very touched by your recognition of my birthday at the start of worship on February 11th. Thank you for singing Happy Birthday and providing me with a shower of cards and well wishes. It is deeply appreciated and adds to the warm welcome I have received as your pastor.*

*Sincerely,  
Pastor Steve*

## ***Lenten Greetings to All!***

It is wonderful to be able to start this holy season with you. Lent is a time of returning to God and returning to the call of holiness in our lives. The lessons for Ash Wednesday repeated themes of that calling. The Prophet Joel proclaims *“Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.”* (Joel 2:13b) The Apostle Paul exhorts us to get our spiritual lives in order now saying *“We entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God” ... “Look, now is the acceptable time; Look, now is the day of salvation!”* (2 Cor. 5:20b, 6:2b). These are a calling to bring us back into relationship with God and Christ’s community of believers to renew ourselves in faith. The liturgical season of Lent gives us the opportunity to do that. It helps us to rediscover the love and graciousness of God offered to the world in the life and ministry of Christ. We are invited to walk with Jesus through his ministry as one of his modern-day disciples. We hear his teachings, visualize his miracles and understand he is the messenger and Messiah of God the world was promised. Jesus encourages us: to *“give alms”* to the poor in recognition of God’s generosity toward us; To *“pray”* meaningful and heartfelt prayers to God who wants to hear from us; To *“fast”* from the things that harm us and others; And to continue his mission through good works that change the world for the better and become *“treasures stored up in heaven”* (Matthew 6). In these ways we change our hearts and treasure the things that God treasures. All of this becomes a part of our ‘return to the Lord’ who claimed us, loves us, and calls us into relationship as his beloved children in Christ.

I invite us all to consider a profound call to holiness this season, and to invite our families and friends to join with us in the endeavor. In the end it benefits us all with a deeper peace and is a pleasing response to God that helps us experience ‘the life worth living’ gifted to us in Christ our Savior.

Wishing you a Lenten Season filled with holy encounters and blessed experiences.

*Pastor Steve*



## Century Trust Fund

Are you having trouble with the high cost of heating your home or paying for your groceries, medications, and daily living expenses? If so, the Century Trust Fund may be able to help. Assistance from the Century Trust Fund is available to members of Trinity who may be in need of financial aid to remain in their own homes, retirement homes, or nursing homes provided certain criteria are met. Applicants must be members of Trinity Church for at least five (5) years, at least 62 years of age, and must show reasonable proof of financial need. You can pick up an application in the church office or contact the pastor. All applications are strictly confidential.



Arlene Dubbs

March 1

## Highlights from February Mission & Outreach Meeting

- Discussed meal plans for the Neighborhood Supper taking place on Wednesday, February 7th.
- Team to stay well informed of events concerning the new YWCA building project. Perhaps a donation will be in order toward the new playground at that location.
- M&O will sponsor the *Roots for Boots* March luncheon.
- The team approved a donation to *Roots for Boots* earmarked to aid a disabled veteran's needs toward a motorized wheelchair or wheelchair access ramp for home. Would prefer to assist a local vet.
- Discussed our food drive for *God's Meal Barrel*. They are presently feeding 160-170 families.
- Talked about the *Church World Service* Hygiene Kit project. We will provide 200 completed kits.
- We are still working on a possible "movie night" at the church.
- M&O provided cleaning supplies to *Safe Home*.
- There was discussion concerning a project for *Hoffman Homes* whereby we would be supplying duffle bags for residents who are departing Hoffman for new venues. Many times these youth & young adults come with nothing but the clothes on their backs. More info is needed at this time.

### Volunteers Needed!

The *Hanover Area Council of Churches* is in need of volunteers. Did you know that 95% of their workforce are volunteers? If you are interested in giving back to the community by volunteering at HACC, please contact them at 717 633-6353. And remember, giving in even simple ways can help those in need while improving your health and happiness at the same time!



| Day | Name                          | Yrs. |  | Day | Name                             | Yrs. |
|-----|-------------------------------|------|--|-----|----------------------------------|------|
| 5   | Karen and Joel Weaver         | 47   |  | 21  | Barbara and Robert Williams, Jr. | 53   |
| 12  | Tina and Trevis Becker        | 36   |  | 24  | Peggy and Anthony Brallier       | 40   |
| 20  | Kimberly and William Spangler | 14   |  | 30  | Rebecca and Andrew Blumenthal    | 50   |

**Note:** *If your anniversary was omitted, please contact the office to update your records.*

## 2024 CONSISTORY

The new year for Consistory is beginning and we are looking forward to a productive time of growth and continued renewal for Trinity Church. If you have any concerns or issues, ideas for outreach or a desire to serve your church in some capacity, please talk with any member. We pray for God's guidance to uphold the mission of Trinity Church within our church family and the broader community outside our doors.

Mike Sabaka - President

John Dickert - Vice President

John Coulson - Treasurer

Beth Leckrone - Secretary

Bunny Harman

Barb Williams

Lee Bartlett

Karl Albin

Dave Snyder

Lorene Crooks

Brittany Breighner

Sharon Goldstein

*Members of Trinity,*

*Thank you for bringing the spirit of Christmas to the youth and young adults in care at Hoffman Homes this year. Your generous donation of \$30 and Christmas gifts fulfilling 15 tags is truly a blessing to everyone on campus. As you know, Hoffman Homes provides life-changing care, treatment, and support to youth and young adults from across Pennsylvania who are struggling with their mental health. Your generosity lets them know that they are not alone in their journey!*



*With deep appreciation,*

*Susan Cann*

*Director of Development*

| <b>March</b>                  | <b>3</b>     | <b>10</b>     | <b>17</b>        | <b>24</b>        | <b>31</b>      |
|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
|                               | Lent 3       | Lent 4        | Lent 5           | Palm Sunday      | Easter         |
| <b>Consistory Team</b>        |              |               |                  |                  |                |
| <b>Worship Leader</b>         | Lee Bartlett | Lorene Crooks | Maggie Mininger  | Steve Hutton     | Caleb Leckrone |
| <b>Altar Flower Sponsor</b>   | Open         | Open          | Open             | Bristol          | Open           |
| <b>Chancel Flower Sponsor</b> | Forry        | Open          | Foreman & Lobach | Foreman & Markle | Open           |
| <b>Bulletin Sponsor</b>       | Wilson       | Erb           | Open             | Stauffer         | Open           |

Please call the church office to schedule a flower or bulletin dedication for any available date.

# Trinity United Church of Christ

116 York Street  
Hanover, PA 17331

*Change Service Requested*



*Trinity's Mission Statement: Trinity United Church of Christ strives to be a warm, caring family of Christian believers. Our calling is to witness and strengthen the Christian faith through meaningful worship, Christian education, and Christian living in the home, the community, and the world.*

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## Trinity Staff:

Rev. Steven Ostendorf, Pastor

Mike Blottenberger, Admin. Assistant

Betsy Bristol, Secretary

Sue Seidenstricker, Director of Music

Tony Brallier, Ali Geiman, & Ruth Weaver, Sextons

Trinity Nursery School, Tina McCole, Director

## E-Mail Address:

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**For April Newsletter Articles  
March 15, 2024**